

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TOKYO 05233 210345Z

21

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 CAB-09

COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-11 FAA-00 OMB-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01

NIC-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 EUR-25 DRC-01

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O P 210207Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1411

INFO USLO PEKING PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG PRIORITY

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 5233

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR JA CH TW

SUBJ: INITIAL GOJ REACTION TO GRC BREAK IN CIVIL AIR LINK

RES: TOKYO 5232

SUMMARY: GOJ HAS EXPRESSED REGRET THAT GRC CHOSE TO SEVER CIVIL AIR LINK BETWEEN JAPAN AND TAIWAN, AND HOPE THAT IT COULD BE RESTORED IN FUTURE. AT EMERGENCY MEETING EVENING FEBRUARY 20, LDP PARTY EXECUTIVES, FONMIN AND TRANSPORT MIN AGREED TO MOVE AHEAD WITH DIET RATIFICATION OF CIVAIR AGREEMENT, AND AT SAME TIME EXERT QTE EXTRAORDINARY UNQTE EXFORTS TO RESTORE CIVIL AIR SERVICE BETWEEN JAPAN AND TAIWAN. END SUMMARY.

1. IN RESPONSE TO GRC DECISION TO SEVER CIVIL AVIATION LINK BETWEEN JAPAN AND TAIWAN, CHIEF CABINET SEC NIKAI DO ISSUED STATE-CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 05233 210345Z

MENT CONTAINING FOLLOWING POINTS. GOJ CONSIDERS TERMINATION

OF AIR SERVICES BETWEEN JAPAN AND TAIWAN QTE MOST UNFORTUNATE FOR BOTH SIDES UNQTE, AND GRC DECISION AS QTE QUITE REGRETABLE UNQTE. GOJ QTE HOPES TAIWAN AUTHORITIES WILL RECONSIDER THEIR DECISION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN CONSIDERATION OF MUTUAL INTERESTS OF JAPAN AND TAIWAN UNQTE. STATEMENT ADDED THAT QTE GOJ HAS MADE STRENUOUS EFFORTS TO BEST OF ITS ABILITY TO DEVISE WAYS AND MEANS TO MAINTAIN JAPAN-TAIWAN AIR ROUTE, IT WAS LARGELY BECAUSE OF THIS THAT JAPAN-CHINA NEGOTIATIONS HAD LASTED AS LONG AS ONE YEAR AND SEVERAL MONTHS UNQTE.

2. FONMIN OHIRA MEETING WITH PRESS DESCRIBED SEVERANCE AS QTE QUITE UNFORTUNATE EVENT UNQTE AND QTE MOST REGRETABLE UNQTE THAT TAIWAN AUTHORITIES HAD FAILED TO UNDERSTAND GOJ SINCERITY AND EFFORTS MADE TO PRESERVE AIR LINK. OHIRA ADDED QTE WE CALMLY ACCEPT CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES AND ENDEAVOR TO COPE WITH CONSEQUENCES; GOVERNMENT WOULD LIKE TO DO ITS BEST TO MAINTAIN RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN IN OTHER FIELDS THROUGH NON-GOVERNMENTAL JAPAN-TAIWAN EXCHANGE ASSOCIATION AND EAST ASIA RELATIONS ASSOCIATION UNQTE. OHIRA ALSO SAID HE BELIEVES AIR LINK QTE SHOULD BE, AND COULD BE, RESTORED SOME OTHER TIME UNQTE IN VIEW OF EXISTING CLOSE RELATIONS BETWEEN JAPAN AND TAIWAN IN OTHER FIELDS.

3. ON EVENING OF APRIL 20, FOUR TOP LDP EXECUTIVES, INCLUDING LDP VICE PRESIDENT SHIINA AND SEC GEN HASHIMOTO, MET WITH FONMIN OHIRA AND TRANSPORT MIN TOKUNAGA TO DISCUSS NEXT STEPS. THEY CONFIRMED DECISION TO SUBMIT EARLY NEXT WEEK--BARRING SOME UNEXPECTED CHANGE IN SITUATION -- JAPAN-CHINA CIVIL AIR AGREEMENT TO DIET FOR EARLY RATIFICATION. AT QTE STRONG REQUEST UNQTE OF LDP EXECUTIVES, GOJ MINISTERS AGREED TO EXERT QTE EXTRAORDINARY UNQTE EFFORTS TO RESTORE CIVIL AIR SERVICES BETWEEN JAPAN AND TAIWAN UNDER NON-GOVERNMENTAL ARRANGEMENT. AFTER MEETING, SHIINA TOLD PRESS HE DOES NOT BELIEVE TAIWAN WOULD PERMANENTLY SEVER ITS AIR LINK WITH JAPAN AND ADDED THERE IS NO SUCH INTENTION FROM JAPANESE SIDE EITHER. HE SAID JAPAN WOULD NEGOTIATE RESUMPTION OF AIR LINK WITH TAIWAN AT APPROPRIATE TIME IN FUTURE.

4. ONLY STATEMENT FROM CRITICS OF JAPAN-CHINA AGREEMENT HAS COME FROM LEADER OF PRO-TAIWAN LDP DIETMEN, HIGOICHI NADAO, WHO DEPLORED THAT QTE SITUATION WE HAVE BEEN MOST WORRIED ABOUT UNQTE  
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PAGE 03 TOKYO 05233 210345Z

HAD FINALLY TRANSPIRED.

5. COMMENT: REACTION TO GRC DECISION HAS SO FAR BEEN LIMITED TO STATEMENTS CITED ABOVE. HOWEVER, WE UNDERSTAND LDP IS MEETING AGAIN ON APRIL 21, AND WE EXPECT TO BE ABLE TO REPORT REACTIONS IN GREATER DEPTH AND BREADTH WITHIN NEXT 48 HOURS.  
SHOESMITH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CIVIL AVIATION, TREATY RATIFICATION, AIR TRAFFIC, AVIATION AGREEMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 APR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, JA, CH, TW  
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